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TEXAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

House Membership

Representative Chris Turner



Biographical Information

In November 2008, Chris Turner was elected to serve the people of District 96 in the Texas House of Representatives. As a member of the Legislature, Chris is committed to working on a bipartisan basis on the issues important to Texas families. Chris's priorities include reforming our insurance system to protect the interests of consumers, providing veteran's benefits they have earned through bravely serving our nation and lowering utility rates for Texas families.

District 96 is a rapidly-growing and diverse area which encompasses much of Tarrant County south of Interstate 20, including large major portions of Arlington and Fort Worth. The district also includes Crowley, Kennedale, Rendon and portions of Mansfield and Burleson. Major employers in the area include the University of Texas at Arlington, Lockheed Martin and Bell Helicopter.

During the 81st Legislative Session, Speaker Joe Straus appointed Chris to serve on the House Committee on Defense and Veterans Affairs and the House Committee on Urban Affairs. In his capacity as a member of the Committee on Defense and Veterans Affairs, Chris has worked closely with veterans' leaders and organizations on policy aimed to aid those who have served our nation in uniform. In his first session, Chris filed six pieces of legislation aiding our nations veterans, including House Bill 1299, which would create a funding mechanism for the Permanent Fund for Veterans Assistance, which provides much needed benefits for Texas veterans and returning soldiers. As a member of the House Committee on Urban Affairs, Chris focused on legislation that will help urban areas address the unique issues they face. One such piece of legislation, House Bill 1300, will directly benefit the residents of House District 96 by allowing the creation of the Kennedale TownCenter Development district, which will broaden the tax base in the City of Kennedale, while providing relief to its homeowners.

Chris is a member of the Legislative Veterans Caucus, Texas Legislative Tourism Caucus, Texas Women's Health Caucus, Texas Manufacturing Caucus, Community College Caucus, and the Clean Air Caucus.

Chris previously held the position of District Director in the office of Texas Congressman Chet Edwards. In this capacity, Chris worked closely with people from both parties, including local elected officials, business leaders and others to advance key local priorities, such as transportation projects, water quality initiatives and job creation. Chris also played a leadership role in helping provide needed assistance to veterans, seniors and other citizens.

A lifelong Texan, Chris graduated from the University of Texas at Austin in 1996. Not long after graduation, Chris moved to Fort Worth, where he met his future wife, Lisa. Lisa and Chris were married in 1999. Chris's two step-children, Melissa Hunsaker and Scott Hunsaker, both graduated from Summit High School in Mansfield ISD. Melissa recently graduated from the University of North Texas with a B.F.A. in dance. Scott is a sophomore at Texas State University. The Turners live in Burleson.

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